

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC#

204-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy Morales, City Manager

DATE:

June 10, 2013

SUBJECT: Beach and Dune Educational Workshop

This Letter to Commission is provided to invite you to the upcoming free Beach and Dune Educational Workshop which will take place in the Commission Chambers (1700 Convention Center Drive, 3rd Floor) on Wednesday, June 19 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The purpose of the workshop is to educate the public on the importance of the City's beach and dune ecosystem and to promote coastal resources stewardship in our community. A professional dune ecologist will provide a history of the City's beach and dune, as well as discuss how the dune protects upland properties and provides critical habitat for native flora and fauna. Sea turtle experts from Miami-Dade County will present information regarding the endangered species of sea turtles that nest on the City's beaches. Additionally, representatives from the Surfrider Foundation and the Environmental Coalition of Miami and the Beaches (ECOMB) will provide an overview of their respective volunteer projects which improve and restore the local beach and dune ecosystem. The workshop will be filmed and will be used in a broadcast for MB77 and will also be available on the City's website.

The Beach and Dune Educational Workshop is funded in part through a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Coastal Management Program and the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. The City will also be using this grant to engage the community in volunteer dune restoration events on July 20 and August 24, with a rain date of August 31. Additional restoration efforts, including the removal of non-native vegetation and replanting with native species, will be conducted by a contractor upon completion of these two events. For more information on the workshop and the volunteer dune restoration events, please visit www.miamibeachfl.gov/green.

If you have any suggestions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Betsy Wheaton, Environmental Resources Manager, at ewheaton@miamibeachfl.gov.

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